

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated peptide consisting of any one of the following amino acid sequence (A) to [(F)] (D):
 - (A) the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID NO: 2;
 - (B) the amino acid sequence shown by position 1 to 20 of SEQ ID NO [[No.]]: 2;
 - (C) the amino acid sequence shown by position 5 to 24 of SEQ ID NO [[No.]]: 2;
 - (D) the amino acid sequence shown by position 2 to 13 of SEQ ID NO [[No.]]: 2;
 - ~~(E) an amino acid sequence wherein one to five amino acids are deleted, substituted or added in the amino acid sequence shown by any one of (A) to (D), wherein a peptide consisting of the amino acid sequence has a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity;~~
 - ~~(F) an amino acid sequence having 80% or more homology with the amino acid sequence shown by any one of (A) to (D), wherein a peptide consisting of the amino acid sequence has a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity.~~
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently amended) A fusion peptide wherein the peptide according to claim 1 is bound with a marker protein and/or peptide tag.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Withdrawn) An antibody that can recognize specifically the peptide according to claim 1 or 2.
11. (Withdrawn) The antibody according to claim 10 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
12. (Previously presented) A method for screening a cardioinhibitory factor or hypotensive factor, comprising the steps of administering the peptide according to claim 1 and a test substance to a non-human test animal, measuring a level of cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity, and estimating the test substance as a cardioinhibitory factor in case that cardioinhibitory activity is higher when administering said peptide and said test substance than when administering said peptide only, or estimating the test substance as a hypotensive factor in case that hypotensive activity is higher when administering said peptide and said test substance than when administering said peptide only.
13. (Previously presented) A method for screening an inhibitor of cardioinhibitory activity or an inhibitor of hypotensive activity, comprising the steps of administering the peptide according to claim 1 and a test substance to a non-human test animal, measuring a level of cardioinhibitory or hypotensive activity, and estimating the test substance as an inhibitor of cardioinhibitory activity in case that cardioinhibitory activity is lower when administering said peptide and said test substance than when administering said peptide only, or estimating the test substance as an inhibitor of hypotensive activity in case that hypotensive activity is lower when administering said peptide and said test substance than when administering said peptide only.
14. (Previously presented) A cardioinhibitory/hypotensive agent comprising the peptide according to claim 1 as an active ingredient.

15. (Withdrawn) A method for preventing/treating diseases which necessitate cardioinhibitory/hypotensive activity, wherein the cardioinhibitory/hypotensive agent according to claim 14 is administered.